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Lymphocytic virus-binding lectin LVBL - and corresponding DNA, vectors, antibodies, etc., useful for diagnosis or therapy of HIV infection

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Abstract (Basic): FR 2771750 A

The following are claimed:

- (1) a LVBL (lymphocytic virus-binding lectin) polynucleotide having SEQ ID NO:1 (a defined DNA sequence of 1401 bp given in the specification;
- (2) a polynucleotide selected from (a) the polynucleotide having SEQ ID NO:1 or the corresponding RNA sequence, (b) a polynucleotide whose sequence is complementary to that of polynucleotide (a), (c) a polynucleotide whose sequence has at least 80% homology with polynucleotide (a) or (b), (d) a polynucleotide that hybridises to a sequence of polynucleotide (a), (b) or (c) under stringent conditions, and (e) a fragment of at least 8 consecutive nucleotides of polynucleotide (a), (b), (c) or (d);
  - (3) a LVBL polypeptide having SEQ ID NO:2 (see figure);
- (4) a polypeptide selected from (a) the polypeptide of (3), (b) a variant of polypeptide (a), (c) a polypeptide having at least 80% homology with polypeptide (a), (d) a fragment of at least 5 amino acids of polypeptide (a), (b) or (c), and (d) a biologically active fragment of polypeptide (a), (b) or (c);
- (5) a soluble derivative of a polypeptide as above in which amino acids 71-323 are conserved and at least one of amino acids 22-70 can be replaced or deleted, or in which amino acids 22-161 are conserved and at least one of amino acids 162-323 can be replaced or deleted;
- (6) a recombinant cloning and/or expression vector containing a polynucleotide as above;
  - (7) a host cell transformed with the vector of (6);
- (8) mono- or polyclonal antibodies or their fragments or chimeric antibodies capable of specifically recognising a polypeptide as above.
- USE Cells as above can be used to produce the recombinant LVBL polypeptide. The antibodies can be used to detect the LVBL polypeptide and the polynucleotides can be used as primers and probes for detecting LVBL genomic DNA or cDNA, preferably for diagnosis of a viral infection, especially an HIV infection. Antibodies, vectors and sense or antisense oligonucleotides as above can be used to prevent or treat a viral infection, especially an HIV infection, or to modulate cell

proliferation, especially to stimulate proliferation of haematopoietic progenitor cells in the treatment of medullary hypoplasia or aplasia.  ${\sf Dwg.0/10}$ 

Title Terms: LYMPHOCYTE; VIRUS; BIND; LECTIN; CORRESPOND; DNA; VECTOR; ANTIBODY; USEFUL; DIAGNOSE; THERAPEUTIC; HIV; INFECT

Derwent Class: B04; D16; S03

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